

## Mary Lou Terrien

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**From:** Emilie Evans <emiliecevans@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 10:34 AM  
**To:** Mary Lou Terrien  
**Subject:** Opposition to HB 5232 and SB 720

Dear  
Ms.  
Terrien and all whom are concerned:

**I am writing to voice my opposition to HB 5232  
and SB 720.**

This  
legislation flies in the face of well-known, well-vetted, and measured facts, evidence, and economics that demonstrate historic districts are, in Michigan and beyond, sites of economic and racial integration, pride for the communities, increased property values and much more.

**Specifically in hard-hit cities in Michigan, historic districts are often among the only neighborhoods where residents can find comps, acquire mortgages, and see equity in their properties increase.**

This legislation appears to be desired by the few who do not truly understand the mechanisms of historic districts and the benefits they provide, nor do they understand the systems already in place for owners to facilitate change and improvements to their properties.

**Residents buy into historic districts because they want these benefits, and protections.**

**If the existing historic district legislation is undermined and eroded, the benefits of historic districts will be lost** because of misperceptions about what it stands for.

Additionally, it seems to me **there are far greater statewide and local concerns on legislators hands than this inane HB 5232.**

Please, swallow pride and let this drop. More harm than good will be done in ways that will put Rep. Chris Afendoulis and others behind this legislation on **the wrong side of history.**

Sincerely,

Emilie Evans

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Director, Rightsizing Cities Initiative with PlaceEconomics  
Co-leader,  
Brick + Beam Detroit

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